In the Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A method of managing alerts issued by intrusion detection sensors (11a, 11b, 11c) of an information security system (1) including an alert management system (13), each alert being defined by an alert identifier and an alert content, which method ~~is characterized in that it~~ includes the following steps:

associating with each of the alerts issued by the intrusion detection sensors (11a, 11b, 11c) a description including a conjunction of valued attributes belonging to attribute domains;

organizing the valued attributes belonging to each attribute domain into a taxonomic structure defining generalization relationships between said valued attributes, the plurality of attribute domains thus forming a plurality of taxonomic structures;

completing the description of each of said alerts with sets of values induced by the taxonomic structures on the basis of the valued attributes of said alerts to form complete alerts; and

storing said complete alerts in a logic file system (21) to enable them to be consulted.

2. (Currently amended) [[A]] The method according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein complete alerts are consulted by successively interrogating and/or browsing said complete alerts so that the alert management system (13) responds to a request by supplying pertinent valued attributes enabling a subset of complete alerts to be distinguished in a set of complete alerts satisfying the request in order to enable said request to be refined.

3. (Currently amended) [[A]] The method according to claim 2, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the pertinent valued attributes assigned the highest priority are those that are most general, given the taxonomic structures.

4. (Currently amended) [[A]] The method according to ~~either claim 2 or claim 3, characterized in that~~ claim 2, wherein the alert management system (13) further responds to the request by supplying alert identifiers satisfying the request and whose description cannot be refined with respect to said request.

supplying alert identifiers satisfying the request and whose description cannot be refined with respect to said request.

5. (Currently amended) [[A]] The method according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the alert identifier is a pair consisting of an identifier of the intrusion detection sensor (11a, 11b, 11c) that produces the alert and an alert serial number assigned by said sensor.

6. (Currently amended) [[A]] The method according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the content of each alert includes a text message supplied by the corresponding intrusion detection sensor (11a, 11b, 11c).

7. (Currently amended) [[A]] The method according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 6, characterized in that~~ claim 1, wherein each valued attribute includes an attribute identifier and an attribute value.

8. (Currently amended) [[A]] The method according to claim 7, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein each attribute identifier is associated with one of the following attribute domains: attack domain, attacker identity domain, victim identity domain, and attack date domain.

9. (Currently amended) [[A]] The method according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the description of a given alert is completed by recovering recursively from generalization relationships of the taxonomic structures a set including the more general valued attributes not already included in the description of another alert completed previously.

10. (Currently amended) [[A]] The method according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 9~~ claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the valued attributes in the taxonomic structure are organized in accordance with an acyclic directed graph.

11. (Currently amended) A computer program ~~characterized in that it is~~ designed to execute the method according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 10~~ claim 1, when it is executed by the alert management system (13).

12. (New) Alert management system for managing alerts issued by intrusion detection sensors (11a, 11b, 11c), each alert being defined by an alert identifier and an alert content, which system includes:

processor means for associating with each of the alerts issued by the intrusion detection sensors (11a, 11b, 11c) a description including a conjunction of valued attributes belonging to attribute domains;

processor means for organizing the valued attributes belonging to each attribute domain into a taxonomic structure defining generalization relationships between said valued attributes, the plurality of attribute domains thus forming a plurality of taxonomic structures;

processor means for completing the description of each of said alerts with sets of values induced by the taxonomic structures on the basis of the valued attributes of said alerts to form complete alerts; and

processor means for storing said complete alerts in a logic file system (21) to enable them to be consulted.

13. (New) Information security system comprising intrusion detection sensors and an alert management system according to claim 12.